

10/551281

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PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 47233-5002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Seiichiro YAMAMOTO et al.

Application No.: NEW  
(based on PCT/JP04/004279  
filed March 26, 2004

Filed: September 27, 2005

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) Examiner: Unassigned

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) Group Art Unit: Unassigned

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For: A DISCHARGING MECHANISM AND A DISCHARGING METHOD OF SOLID MATTER

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, MAIL STOP PCT  
Randolph Building  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.